



**Director of
Central
Intelligence**

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National Intelligence Topics (NITs) of Current Interest (FY 1986)

**Issued by the Intelligence Producers
Council for the Director of Central Intelligence**

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Foreword

This document contains the National Intelligence Topics (NITs) of Current Interest that were developed at my request from recommendations made by senior members of the US foreign policy and defense communities, and concurred in by the Senior Interagency Group (Intelligence) Committee on Intelligence Requirements and Priorities (SIG(I)) as guidance for use by the intelligence agencies of the US Government. These topics serve as a forum for policymakers to inform intelligence producers of critical needs for analysis and finished intelligence reporting and are intended to keep research and production efforts focused on those countries and issues of greatest concern to the policymakers during fiscal year 1986 (October 1985 to October 1986).

The FY 1986 NITs are slightly shorter but more diverse than those issued a year ago. Many of the NITs from FY 1985 were carried over and reflect topics that are of high interest to policymakers and have continuing policy relevance. For example, included again are topics relating to Soviet Foreign Policy, Soviet Economic Policy, Soviet Military Policy and Capabilities, and Soviet Strategic Arms Negotiations Issues. Some of the subtopics of these NITs were expanded and highlight the increased policymaker concern for [redacted]

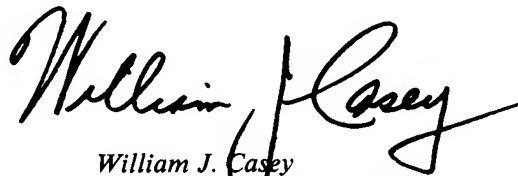
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[redacted] New and/or separate NIT categories were added to the FY 1986 NITs to accommodate the broad spectrum of substantive issues. These include Eastern Europe, South Asia, Chemical/Biological Weapons Proliferation, Technology Transfer, Trade and Technology, and [redacted]

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Because so many NITs identified by policy elements carry over from year to year, the time sensitivity designators (that is, A for six months and B for 12 months) have been deleted from the FY 1986 NITs. The Intelligence Producers Council Staff will submit the NITs and a listing of related significant information gaps to the DCI Collection Committees and the Foreign National Intelligence Priorities Committee with a request from the Deputy Director of Central Intelligence (DDCI) that they review the priorities and identify ongoing or programed actions that will address the gaps. Comprehensive priorities guidance pertaining to longer term intelligence needs is contained in the document entitled *US Foreign Intelligence Requirements Categories and Priorities*.

The Intelligence Producers Council Staff will also continue to prepare periodic progress reports for the SIG(I) on the Intelligence Community's efforts on NIT-related production.


William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence

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